

# The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

VOL.96, NO.32

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

## The Queen is coming

Queen Elizabeth II of U.K. will make her first trip to the College since 1957

By ALEX GUILLÉN  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. REVIEWS EDITOR

Queen Elizabeth II will visit the Commonwealth of Virginia at the beginning of May, including a stop at the College May 4, a Buckingham Palace Spokesman said. The six-day visit is in celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

An itinerary released online said that the afternoon of Friday, May 4, the Queen will visit the College, where she will meet students and faculty, request a ringing of the Wren Bell and receive a gift from the senior class.

President Gene Nichol announced the Queen's impending visit in an e-mail to students Tuesday.

"We're extremely honored to welcome back to our campus Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II — 50 years following her first historic visit to the College of William and Mary," Nichol said. "It will be a great moment in the life of the College — and an unparalleled thrill for our students, faculty, staff and alumni — to host the Queen once again and further strengthen the bonds between the nation's second oldest college and our historic roots with the United Kingdom."



Queen Elizabeth II

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler said that he expects thousands to attend the Friday ceremony.

"It's pretty exciting for the College. The Queen is making two public appearances in Williamsburg, and one will be on our campus," Sadler said. "It's very rare that a British monarch comes to an American university. We should all feel very honored. [The visit] really reflects our heritage as a university that was founded by the crown."

Nichol canceled classes May 4 to facilitate the Queen's visit. Faculty and staff will also receive time off as a chance to participate.

Nichol acknowledged that some problems may arise from the class cancellation.

"The announcement, I'll concede, comes closer to the events than is ideal," Nichol said. "But these limitations inhere in a royal visit. And they will also, we hope, help sustain a unique opportunity for all to participate."

Sadler acknowledged that canceling classes was a "challenging decision," but noted that holding classes would be impractical with so many public attendees and security concerns.

"We've moved all end-of-class, Blowout activi-

ties to Thursday," Sadler said.

He added that the Queen will be accompanied by Virginia state police, the secret service and British security. Magnetometers will be placed around the Wren building and all visitors will be screened for security purposes.

According to ABC News, the Queen will pay tribute to the Virginia Tech massacre during her visit, although she will not visit Blacksburg.

"As the queen is visiting so shortly after the tragedy, it is important that it be recognized," an unidentified spokeswoman said. "It's a significant and terrible tragedy."

Queen Elizabeth II last visited the College 50 years ago during the 350th anniversary of Jamestown's founding. During that visit, the Queen had tea with then-College President Alvin Chandler and his wife, then toured the Wren Building and accepted a gift of six original drawings of buildings on campus.

Her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, will not join the Queen.

Instead, he will spend the afternoon touring the U.S.S. Wisconsin, a decommissioned Iowa-class battleship moored in Norfolk at the Hampton Roads Naval Museum.

The College will post information as it becomes available online at [www.wm.edu/hermajesty](http://www.wm.edu/hermajesty).

Flat Hat News Editor Brian Mahoney contributed to this report.

## 12 sued for illegal downloads

By BRAD CLARK  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

It is rare for College students to be sued by large, national organizations.

It's a situation, however, in which 12 students currently find themselves, as part of the third wave of the Recording Industry Association of America's new campaign to target the illegal downloading of music on college campuses.

"I think it's kind of ridiculous that we're given 20 days to gather this much money," junior Mac Garber said. Garber received a warning letter and has forgone his anonymity in order to speak with The Flat Hat. "Most college students don't have that type of cash lying around — it's like they expect us to have to go borrow all of the money. It's completely unreasonable."

The College received 12 letters on April 12, alerting the administration of a pending lawsuit against members of the student body. The letters

See 12 page 4

## Election debacle continues

By AUSTIN WRIGHT  
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

A student and Student Information Network developer logged into the system on Student Assembly election day March 29 and generated election results while the election was in progress.

The same former SIN leaders and alumni who worked to restore the data that was lost on election night due to a human error notified then-Elections Commissioner senior James Evans that several students logged into the administrative pages of SIN, and one of the students — who they said was most likely senior Ben Locher — generated results.

According to SIN procedures, the students should have been blocked from entering the administrative pages on election day but were not.

Evans said that Locher logged into the system and immediately afterward results were tabulated. He does not know for sure that Locher was the one who accessed the data.

"I have been a SIN developer for several years and have regular access to the SIN system. I did nothing wrong in monitoring the system as would any other SIN developer," Locher said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. "I had (and have) no idea that SIN developers are not to access the system."

He would not answer questions about whether or not he generated results. Locher is a former Flat Hat staff writer. Evans, who is also a senator for the senior class, is sponsoring The Means of Polling Act in the SA Senate, a bill that names Locher as the student who generated the results and censures any SA member who might have seen them. The bill directs the Elections Commission to research new polling methods.

"SIN started in '98 and has done a lot for us, but at this point we're facing problems year after year," Evans said in the telephone interview. He is advocating a more secure, Banner-based voting system and is trying to work out the details with Information Technology.

"I don't know if SIN is going to be able to supply us with what we need in the future," he said.

### IN MEMORIAM



JULIA SCHAUMBURG ♦ THE FLAT HAT

Eleven days after the deadliest shooting in U.S. history, a Virginia Tech Banner drapes the welcome sign of the College.

## In Williamsburg, slaves played key role

By MORGAN FIGA  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

In the early 18th century, income from the Nottoway Quarter, a plantation run by slaves, was used to support the College. While working on an honors thesis in history, alumna Kristin Zech, '01, found that slaves contributed greatly to the College.

"There were slaves connected [to the College] up to the Civil War," history lecturer Juile Richter said.

Richter, who worked with Colonial Williamsburg in 1999 to put together information about the history of slavery in CW, said slaves would have been at the College throughout the colonial period.

According to Zech's research, the Nottoway Quarter supported the College. Profits made from the slave-run tobacco plantation were used to assist students who needed financial aid and to offset other College costs. Accord-

ing to documents Zech found, nearly half of the 1718 endowment dealing with Nottoway Quarter was used to purchase slaves.

"Anything that they grew would have been sold for the benefit of the College," Richter said.

Richter added that this was not the only capacity in which slaves were involved at the College.

"Some of the students brought personal slaves with them," she said. "Most of the gentry boys — it was very likely they would have a personal slave to take care of what they needed."

The College also employed slaves on campus to perform labor tasks. Examples included serving food, washing dishes, cleaning chamber pots and doing laundry.

"Any of the unglamorous work was likely to have been done by slaves," Richter said.

She added that it was likely slaves

were involved in the construction of Colonial Williamsburg and the College.

"I haven't seen a document [about] whether slaves built buildings, but I would feel most comfortable that they probably did," she said. "I wouldn't be surprised."

She added that there is evidence that many of the laborers in Colonial Williamsburg owned slaves. Some may have installed windows in the Brafferton.

The Flat Hat reported in February that the Wren Building was most likely built by slaves, according to a Colonial Williamsburg historian. Archaeological research done by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation shows that James Wray was one of the glaziers at the Brafferton School who employed many slaves.

Zech's research also found that

See COLONIAL page 4

## Registrar loses job

City relieves Andrews of duties

By ALEX GUILLÉN  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. REVIEWS EDITOR

Williamsburg City voter registrar Dave Andrews was "relieved of duty" and will not be reappointed when his term ends in June, according to the April 25 edition of the Virginia Gazette.

Andrews was reportedly escorted by Williamsburg police to remove personal effects from his office to "ensure the integrity of election records," Deputy Police Chief Dave Sloggie said. He cautioned that the escort was merely a "precaution" and that it did not suggest that Andrews would tamper with the records.

The locks on his office were reportedly changed as well.

Andrews told the Gazette that he had met earlier that day with the electoral board about "a personnel matter that involves me." Although he still holds the

See ANDREWS page 4



COURTESY PHOTO ♦ THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION

Colonial Williamsburg portrays the lives of black Virginians in Colonial America, both free and enslaved.



NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

A front page headline in Tuesday’s edition stated that the subject of the Students for a Democratic Society convention was the Mideast. The convention was actually about betting the surrounding community and encouraging students to participate in local government.


The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Friday




High 86°  
Low 61°

Weather Saturday



High 80°  
Low 58°

Sunday



High 78°  
Low 56°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“

You have no idea how happy this makes me.

—Assistant Senate Chair sophomore Matt Beato on the firing of Dave Andrews

”

See VOTING page 1

“

I wanted my clothes to be something you could see someone rocking out in. Maybe not on this planet. Maybe on a different planet.

— junior Lana Shahmoradian on her clothing line, Heavy Metal Unicorn

”

See FASHION page 6

News in Brief

College will switch to online billing

Recently the College implemented eBill, a new system of tuition payment. This service is provided to students as a “convenient and reliable alternative to paper bills,” according to the College’s financial operations department.

Students will be able to view bills on the myWM self-service page. Paper bills will no longer be mailed to students. If students wish for parents to pay the bill they will be responsible for providing a third party e-mail address for a parent or guardian. The College will then send a statement to the listed address that includes a billing due date and the amount due. The third party will not be able to view the actual billing statement.

Since tuition payment now rests on student shoulders, some worry that there will be a rise in late payments. Restrictive holds will be placed on all accounts not paid in full by the established due date for the semester. Restrictive holds prevent transcripts from being issued and students from registering.

According to Pamela Johnston of the bursar’s office, the College decided to implement the eBill system for a variety of reasons. She said the College wants to provide faster and easier service to students. The College is also concerned about the environmental consequences of mass-mailing paper bills. Students will receive bills for the fall semester on eBill in mid-July.

— by Joshua Barr

By the Numbers

These averages are based on all current professors with at least 5 ratings on ratemyprofessors.com, a popular site where students evaluate their professors. Average “quality” is a combination of “clarity” and “helpfulness” scores.

	Quality, Easiness
Government	3.92, 3.02
English	3.75, 3.34
Chemistry	3.59, 2.94
Economics	3.49, 2.96
Computer Science	3.16, 3.10

— by Maxim Lott



COURTESY PHOTO • WIKIPEDIA COMMONS  
Drexel University, pictured above, is being sued by the state of New York.

BEYOND THE BURG  
Drexel sued for deceptive business practices  
University is one of many targeted for misusing student loan companies

BY KARA STARR  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

New York’s Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo has just informed Drexel University in Philadelphia that they will be sued for deceptive business practices, accusing the school of making a private lending firm base in San Francisco, Education Finance Partners, their “sole preferred private loan provider,” according to a New York Times article.

Cuomo’s lawsuit accuses Drexel of guiding loan-seeking students to Education Finance as part of an agreement between the firm and the university, stating that payments to the university for their endorsement will be based on loan volume.

This contract, last signed in 2006, states that Education Finance must pay the university three-quarters of 1 percent of the sum of all loans taken by Drexel students.

Drexel has received over \$120,000 from Education Finance since 2005, and the firm owes them an additional \$126,000 in accordance with their deal. Since 2005, the lending firm has funded over \$16 million in loans from Drexel students alone.

Cuomo claims that he has jurisdiction to sue Drexel because “the university recruits students from New York and New York families rely on Drexel’s representation about preferred lenders.”

This lawsuit is Cuomo’s first attempt in the state’s burgeoning investigation of the corruption in the college loan industry. Drexel’s administration refused to accept the settlement, giving Cuomo the opportunity to make the university a showcase of what will happen to universities that do not comply.

“I call this opening another front,” Cuomo said. “Drexel participated in revenue-sharing,

which I consider to be the most egregious activity that we’ve found at any institution, and they did it to one of the greatest extents in the country, meaning they received more money back. Also, they refused to settle.”

Settlements have been reached with 12 other schools with similar accusations that have consented to follow a code of conduct with lending firms, and most schools have also agreed to reimburse students.

Drexel Vice President for University Relations Philip Terranova maintains that the university has done nothing wrong by engaging in such a deal with Education Finance Partners.

“Drexel will vigorously defend its position in this matter,” Terranova said. “We believe the allegations are without foundation in law or in fact. We have carefully reviewed our practices regarding student loans, and we are satisfied that there is no conflict of interest.”

STREET BEAT  
Where’s the best place to hook up on campus?



There’s a clearing behind Ewell that’s completely obscured by bushes.

Shannon Field, freshman



The kitchen bathrooms in Botetourt.

Scott Stinebaugh, freshman



The single sex bathroom on the basement floor of the library.

Ryan Clark, senior



The academic buildings.

Evan Campbell, freshman  
— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton

CAMPUS POLICE BEAT  
April 17 to April 23

**Tuesday, April 17** — An unidentified individual called police to report a group of people laughing and yelling outside Jamestown North, on the side facing Barksdale Field. **1**

—A student called to report the theft of 20 Ritlan tablets from Unit F. The tablets were estimated at \$80. **2**

**Wednesday, April 18** — A student called in to report the theft of their iPod while they were at the library. The white iPod has an estimated value of \$299. **3**

**Thursday, April 19** — A student called to report the larceny of his wallet from the University Center. Estimated value of the wallet was \$40. **4**

**Friday, April 20** — An individual called to complain that several males were making noises outside of Giles and Preston. **5**

—A student called to report damage to his vehicle on Ukrop Way. The estimated damage to the vehicle was \$100. **6**

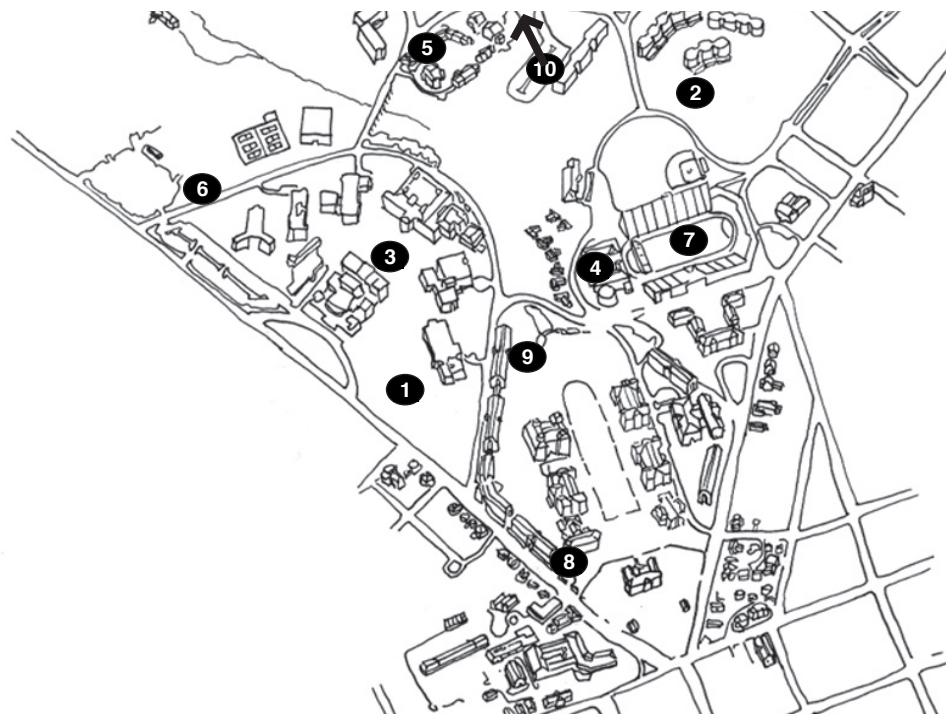
**Saturday, April 21** — Officers were dispatched to an unidentified area to deal with a reported news complaint.

—A student reported the larceny of his cell phone from Zable Stadium. The cell phone’s approximately value was \$399. **7**

—An RA called to report students possibly smoking marijuana in Jefferson Basement. Walking by the room he smelled marijuana. Officers were dispatched and upon their arrival, there was no odor of marijuana. The officers found and seized a bottle of Captain Morgan Rum. The area director was present for the disposal. The students were charged with under aged possession of alcohol. **8**

**Monday, April 23** — A student reported a larceny of his parking pass while his car was parked on Landrum. The estimated loss of the parking pass was \$240. **9**

—A student reported the larceny of her license plate while her car was parked at Rec Sports. The estimated value of the license plate was \$45. **10**



—By Morgan Figa



# Bracelets support Tech

By Carolyn DiProspero  
The Flat Hat

In response to the tragic shootings at Virginia Tech, senior Scott Brown and the Student Assembly have teamed up to sell “We Remember” bracelets to raise money for Virginia Tech’s Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund. The 2,500 maroon and 2,500 orange bracelets will feature the College’s and Virginia Tech’s logos and the words “We Remember.” On the other side of the bracelet will be the date of the shooting, 4/16/07.

Brown, who also planned the College’s five-year memorial in honor of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, came up with the idea as a way for students to show solidarity with Tech. He contacted SA president and vice president Zach Pilchen and Valerie Hopkins, both sophomores, asking for their support.

“We wanted to address in the long term what we could do for Tech,” Hopkins said. “Coming together as a community to grieve was an important way to deal with the tragedy. Now, we have to reach out to their community.”

The SA senate passed the “We Are All Hokies” bill, which allocated money to pay for 5,000 bracelets. A second bill was also introduced in the senate by Sens. James Evans, a senior, and Ryan Eickel, a freshman, to express the College’s condolences to Virginia Tech.

“By purchasing the bracelets, it’s a small way that we, as a community, can convey a tremendous message to the Tech community that we are united,” Brown said.

The bracelets will arrive on campus today and students will be able to purchase them for a minimum donation of \$2 beginning at the King and Queen Ball and, pending approval, the My Chemical Romance concert Saturday. The bracelets will be on sale next week at the University Center and outside Swem Library.

All of the proceeds from the sale of the bracelets will go to the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund. According to the Fund’s website, the collection uses donated money to pay for “assistance to victims and their families, grief counseling, memorials, communication expenses and comfort expenses.”

# Insurance to cost less

By Meghan O’Malley  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

The College’s renegotiated health insurance policy will be approximately 25 percent cheaper than the current policy, Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler said.

The policy, for both undergraduate and graduate students, remains essentially the same every year but is annually renegotiated between the College and Student Resources, a division of The MEGALife and Health Insurance Company. The renegotiated policy will go into effect for the Class of 2011 in August 2007.

According to an e-mail from Dr. Gail Moses, Director of the Student Health Center, with the exception of a \$10 co-pay, all costs incurred from

services, supplies, medications and contraception provided at the Health Center will be covered 100 percent.

Improvements to the policy include providing free contraceptives and no co-pays for prescription medications filled at the Health Center.

The school also increased the coverage for prescription medications filled outside of the Health Center from \$300 to \$1,200.

For the 2007-2008 school year, the cost of the annual student premium for the basic insurance plan will be will be \$1,020.

Starting with the Class of 2010, every student entering the College must demonstrate proof of health insurance or they will be automatically entered into the College plan.

# Meese on short list for federal judgeship

*Law professor would have to leave College to become a federal judge*

By Alexandra Cochrane  
Flat Hat Assoc. News Editor

Alan J. Meese, Ball Professor at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law and co-chair of the William and Mary Committee on Religion at a Public University, has been recommended for a federal court judgeship by Sens. John Warner and Jim Webb.

The two largest Bar Associations in Virginia sent Meese’s name to Webb and Warner. The Virginia Bar Association recommended 11 individuals to the senators, and the Virginia State Bar sent a list of nine individuals. He was also recommended by the Virginia Women Attorneys Association.

“I am honored by the confi-

dence these associations have expressed in me. Sitting on the Fourth Circuit would be a unique and exciting opportunity to serve the Commonwealth and the Nation,” Meese said.

The confirmation process for a federal appeals court judgeship could take over a year because potential candidates must first be nominated and confirmed.

Meese’s name on the two Bar Association lists is a significant step toward President Bush nominating Meese, who would then have to be approved by the Senate.

It is possible for a nominee not to be confirmed. John Roberts, chief justice of the Supreme Court, was nominated to the D.C. Circuit by George H.W. Bush and not confirmed, but he was later nominated by George W. Bush and confirmed.

A few years later, he was nom-

inated for the Supreme Court. Every current Supreme Court justice was a Federal Appeals Court judge at one point in time.

The next step for Meese is a potential nomination by Bush based on the senators’ recommendations.

Federal judges, unlike state judges, do not have fixed terms and could serve a life tenure if they maintain good moral standards.

Meese’s illustrious history began when he graduated from the College ranked first in his class with a double major in Ancient Greek and economics.

He went on to graduate from the University of Chicago Law School in 1989 where he worked on the University of Chicago Law Review. He has clerked for two judges, including Antonin Scalia, and has practiced law at Skadden, Arps, Slatem Meagher and Flom

with a specialty in antitrust law.

He joined the College’s faculty in 1995 and became an associate professor of law in 1998. He is currently the Ball Professor of Law and the vice president and president elect of the Faculty Assembly.

He has published several scholarly articles on topics ranging from antitrust law to free speech rights of corporations.

If Meese were to become a federal judge, he would be unable to teach full-time at the College, but could perhaps teach part-time.

There are four former academics on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and a former University of Virginia professor serves on the Fourth Circuit.

There are currently two vacancies on the Fourth Circuit which, hears appeals in Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

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# 12 sued

12 from page 1

mention no names, only the IP addresses of the offending users computers.

The school, which holds that information, forwarded the dis-patches to the appropriate stu-dents.

The letters represent a final of-fer for students to settle with the record companies before any ac-tion is taken to formally file a civil suit in court.

“Frankly, we’ve found that students know that downloading from unauthorized P2P systems is illegal,” RIAA President Cary Sherman wrote in an internet dis-cussion with university journal-ists from across the country. “But the chance of getting caught isn’t great enough to discourage them from doing it. By increasing the number of lawsuits, we’re letting them know that the risk of getting

caught is greater. That’s also why we’re bringing more lawsuits on a single college campus.”

The new campaign, which has now resulted in 1,218 letters sent to students from 68 different universities, focuses on mailing large numbers of letters to specific schools in order to send a concen-trated message of warning to the entire student body.

If students refuse to settle, the next step is for the RIAA to sub-poena the various schools in order to ascertain a user’s identity.

The College is only the second Virginia state school, after Vir-ginia Tech, to be targeted by the RIAA’s new strategy.

The reason for this newfound focus on college campuses stems from the belief that a dispropor-tionate number of college students download music illegally — the RIAA’s website cites a Student Monitor study finding that more than half of all college students are guilty of copyright infringement regarding music and movies.

The campaign also marks a shift in regards to targets for the RIAA. While the organization has focused its efforts on the most grievous offenders in the past, they now seem committed to take legal actions against offenders regardless of the scope of their transgression.

“I couldn’t believe it,” Garber said. “I mean, I know so many people that download so much more music than me. I thought that I’d need at least 1,000 songs for anyone to notice me.”

Garber’s letter mentions 370 songs that the record companies believe to be downloaded ille-gally on his computer.Garber’s letter mentions 370 songs that the record companies believe to be downloaded illegally on his com-puter.

The RIAA strongly recom-mends that students consider the settlement, heralding the pre-lawsuit settlements as being far discounted from later settlements and decisions.

The punishments levied by the courts, should a student be tried in court and found guilty, would be between \$750 and \$150,000 per work copied. While the amount of money asked for by the RIAA in these initial settlements is usually kept private, Garber has confirmed that his letter asks for \$3,000 in order to prevent further litigation.

Responding to charges that the RIAA is drawing confessions from students who are not well-versed in the law, all the while saving costs on legal fees, RIAA General Counsel and Executive Vice Pres-ident Steven Marks wrote, “We have heard from a number of de-fendants that they wished to have the option of settling before a law-suit was filed ... Settlements are completely voluntary, so a student can turn down our offer to settle before filing a suit in order to have his day in court if he wishes.”

The RIAA has already declared the program a huge success. Of the first 805 letters sent out, 328 students have decided to settle.

Executives of the various re-cording companies are quick to stress that they are not against the downloading of music, and that they merely want to point stu-dents toward more legal means of accessing music.

One of the RIAA’s favorite programs to publicize as the

next wave of music enjoyment is Ruckus.

The Herndon, Virginia-based firm offers free down-loads to all college students, using advertisement revenue to cover the necessary royalty payments. While the program certainly seems promising, it still has its faults, as the files have encryptions that don’t allow them to be played on iTunes or iPods

Downloading is still popular among many college students, however, and the lawsuits will likely continue.

“Honestly, I don’t think that it’s really affected my friends that much,” Garber said. “Some of them have stopped for the time being, but mostly people aren’t really fazed.”

Casting the issue in terms of the effect that the illegal down-loading of music could have on artists, Sherman remarked: “I’d hate to think that the next Red Hot Chili Peppers has to go back to waiting tables be-cause they can’t make a career in music.”

## Andrews fired

ANDREWS from page 1

title of registrar, Andrews claimed he could not discuss the matter further and referred questions to the electoral board.

The registrar’s office was closed Tuesday while the change was made. It reopened Wednes-day with the assistant registrar, Sharon Marchelya, in charge.

Andrews’ time in office has been controversial among students at the College as they have not been al-lowed to register as voters in the city.

Andrews was named in a law-suit in which students challenged his decision that they not be counted as permanent residents. Student As-sembly Senate Chair Matt Beato, a noted supporter of allowing students

# Colonial slavery

COLONIAL from page 1

the College would hire its slaves out to the Williamsburg area. Research done by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and Zech shows that there were also fairly sizable num-bers of freed slaves in Williamsburg. Richter added that Virginia Gover-nor Nicholson started a school for enslaved men in 1774 and, for a while, the College had a grammar school for slaves.

“We do know that on the eve of the American Revolution a census of Williamsburg revealed that over half the town was black,” Richter said.

She did not want to speculate on whether there are descendants of the slaves or free blacks living in the city.

“I suspect it would be very tricky to trace that far back,” she said.

According to Zech and archives at Swem Library, at one point Col-lege President James Madison tried to sell slaves for land during his ten-ure. Archives indicate that there was still a presence of slaves until the Civil War.

The existence of slaves at college campuses in Virginia is not uncom-mon. According to an Associated Press report, April 26 the University of Virginia apologized for the use of slave labor on their grounds.

Richter said it was important to remember how much slaves have contributed to the history of the Col-lege.

“I don’t think you can separate the history of Williamsburg from the history of slavery,” she said.

to register to vote, said that Andrews “changes policy on a whim” and has “a pattern of disenfranchising stu-dents.”

“He’s switched policies so many times; it’s not even funny,” Beato said.

Beato was glad to see Andrews go.

“You have no idea how happy this makes me,” he said.



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# OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Opinions Editor **Joe Kane**  
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opinions@flathatnews.com

## Common-sense gun control

Eleven days after the deadliest shooting in American history, it is time to ask ourselves a long overdue question: Why are gun laws in this country, and the state of Virginia in particular, so relaxed — so much so that a student with a history of mental illness can potentially acquire one handgun per month? While the right to bear arms is sacrosanct in this country, and the majority of efforts to curb gun violence have achieved few lasting results, we are once again reminded that it is a debate that needs to take place.

Amidst all the questions that have been raised after the Virginia Tech massacre, the most puzzling and chilling of all concerns Cho Seung-Hui's history of mental illness. Why, with red flags being raised left and right, was a young man who was labeled as presenting "an imminent danger to himself or others as a result of mental illness" by a Virginia judge in December 2005 still allowed to legally purchase two handguns in the two-month span before he took the lives of 32 people? The answer, at least in a legal

*Whatever one's stance is on gun control laws in America, such common-sense initiatives will help to save lives without posing a threat to the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens.*

sense, is a disconnect between federal and Virginia law — a loophole that Cho was able to exploit. While the federal government would have banned Cho from purchasing the two handguns given his documented mental health history, Virginia only enforces such limitations if a person is involuntarily committed to a mental institute. Cho was spared such a sentence, and his illness did not show up on background checks conducted by gun dealers.

Such discrepancies in federal and state law must be removed. It seems only logical that anyone deemed an imminent danger to themselves or others by a judge should not be allowed to purchase a weapon. While some will still acquire guns and ammunition illegally, tougher background checks and longer waiting periods would represent a critical first step in preventing future tragedies. Whatever one's stance is on gun control

laws in America, such common-sense initiatives will help to save lives without posing a threat to the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens. While it should be noted that Virginia is one of only 22 states that places mental-status restrictions on gun purchases, improvements to the state's laws are both necessary and attainable without violating any law-abiding citizen's right to bear arms. For example, Virginia law currently holds that any person 21 years or older can purchase one handgun a month, a statute of which Cho took advantage. The time has come for this law to be re-examined, as the necessity of purchasing 12 handguns a year for self-defense or hunting purposes is almost nonexistent.

Eight years removed from the shootings at Columbine High School, the debate on gun control and violence in America appears to have come full circle. The presence of advanced weaponry — guns whose primary purpose is to kill as rapidly and as lethally as possible — is extremely

troubling. After all, does anyone really need a machine gun or automatic pistol to hunt or protect themselves? Changing the accessibility of such weapons, as well as implementing common-sense safety features like child locks and investing in other safety technology, would represent more important steps in protecting the people of this country.

The turbulence of the last 11 days has been far-reaching and profoundly felt, and the thought of that day will forever linger in the minds of Tech students, families and all who have been touched by this tragedy. In terms of guns and violence, we understand that this is a contentious and controversial issue. Yet there are simple compromises that can and must be reached in the coming years by state and federal legislators. We never wanted another Columbine, and now, we must make sure that we never see another Virginia Tech.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author's name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

## 'Tis sweet to be remembered

The funny thing when you're gone from college is that no one really cares.

Believe me: if I had it my way, on the day I left, everyone would dress in black. Men and women alike would carry decorative hankies that by the end of the day would be soaked in tears of raw sorrow and snot of passionate remembrance.

But that's not quite how it is. The "study abroad" situation is an interesting one, because it forces narcissists and solipsists like me to confront a very large fear — that we are not the center of the universe, or the College campus, or even our particular social circles.

That's right. I didn't want to believe it, either, and I'd been categorically denying it for a number of weeks now. I expected parties to cease with my absence. When people went out, I thought, they would sit around on uncomfortable chairs in otherwise empty rooms with no music playing, discussing how terrible things had been since I'd left.

"If only Dan were still here," they'd say. "Then this mere gathering would be complete. It would become a party. He'd play incredible music that we'd never heard before."

"He was a master orator," another would pipe up. "He could speak on any subject, for any length of time, and I'd never be bored — even modernist poetry, and I loathe the stuff. But now I'm plenty bored. I may go off myself in the men's room. Excuse me."

Another guest would have already drowned his grief in enough booze to prevent him from speaking coherently. "Dan — here — yes. (Snore.) Is? Is he? No? (Snore.) Damn."

From a beautiful woman: "I wish Dan were around so I could sleep with him."

From another equally beautiful woman: "I've already slept with Dan. But if he came back, I'd gladly do it again. And again. Sigh."

And so on and so forth until the whole room is no more than an amorphous puddle of swooning fans. In my dream world, I'd return from a hard day of work here in England to find hundreds, nay, thousands of voicemails, e-mails and instant messages begging me to return as promptly as possible. But it's very rare that I find page after page devoted to my glory, or even a simple "WE NEED U! COME BACK!!!!!"

Could it be that I've been forgotten? Well, maybe. College campuses are filled with bright, young people doing fun things and living for

the moment. I, for the moment, am not part of the moment. I may not be replaceable, but the gap created by my absence is probably pretty easy to ignore, all things considered — sort of like that crack in the wall that you always mean to fix but never will.

Some are doubtlessly scoffing. "This kid is only gone for three months, and of those three, the College is only in session for one. Of that one month, several weeks will be spent pursuing final exams, anyway. So who the hell cares if he's not around for Blowout?"

This is an excellent point, and one that I can only counter by reminding you of how much fun I am to be around.

I'm exceptionally fun. Ask anyone who knows me. (Don't ask people who've only heard of me — they are, by nature, jealous.) In this day and age, when frenzied Americans everywhere spend their waking hours just looking for their next fix of entertainment, I'm better than drugs, sex — even television. Yes, even television. Those aren't my words. One of my friends told me so once. Really.

Has she/he spoken to me since I left? Well, yeah, a little bit, I guess.

I suppose what it all comes down to is, I wanted to believe that going abroad would be the closest possible thing to faking my own death and watching people at my funeral.

we must accept that things will go on without us, that we're not the sole harbingers of joy to our friends. It's a bit like facing death, in a way. If people have any idea that you'll come back, they'll stop missing you right away. The big exception to this rule is Jesus Christ, who many are positive will return but still deeply miss. But I, unlike John Lennon, am no Jesus. I'm just a Lazarus — I'll be back.

I'm reminded of the last lines of "The Catcher in the Rye," which read, "Don't ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody." From this, we can infer the following:

One: (Somewhat extraneous, but bear with me.) J.D. Salinger must never have told anybody anything, because he's currently living as a recluse and seems to have no desire to return to society.

Two: None of my friends or acquaintances have told me anything of great significance, or they'd be really, really, really, gut-wrenchingly sad right about now. Granted, a few get the sniffsles on occasion, but it's allergy season and I don't want to assume anything.

And three, oh, three: I'm about to miss you all much more than you miss me.

*Dan Piepenbring, a junior at the College, is a staff columnist. His columns appear on Fridays.*



By CHAD THOMPSON, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

## Rising tuition raises questions

In the April 20 issue, The Flat Hat reported that the College will raise tuition rates next year. According to the article, tuition will increase 8.5 percent for out-of-state students and 7.5 percent for Virginians. The



Rachael Siemon-Carome

article stresses the fact that we need to raise tuition in order to keep up with the competition. But at what cost? The price of college tuition is already unbearable for so many students, and as more students are forced to take out tens of thousands of dollars in student loans, the

idea that they would have to pay more just doesn't seem fair. What good are better facilities if the best students can't afford to come and enjoy them? My first reaction to an increase in tuition is that I don't want it. Why would I want the school to demand more money out of my own pocket? Why should my sophomore year cost more than my freshman year? I'm not doing anything different and as far as I know I won't be getting anything better — or will I?

I have heard all of the promises before. By increasing tuition, we can provide teachers with higher salaries and better resources for students. But my question is, how will the extra 7.5 percent that I am now required to pay benefit me personally? Of course I want better resources, but how do I know that the money I am paying is going toward the things that I

*It's often hard for students and families to understand why they should have to pay more for the same thing they were getting the year before.*

want? I can ask this question time and time again, but the answer remains the same — I don't know.

If we want to build a nicer stadium we need more money, but for those people who don't go to football games, why should they have to pay more? It's often hard for students and families to understand why they should have to pay more for the same thing they were getting the year before. It's a problem that will come up in our lives constantly. We all hesitate to give money when we might not necessarily reap the benefits.

That's why we have to look at this from a broader perspective. Maybe the improvement of teachers' salaries doesn't affect us directly, but a lot of good can come out of it. If teachers' salaries increase, we will be able to get the best teachers to work at the College. And beyond that, if teachers get paid more they will be motivated to work harder, because they will enjoy their

jobs more. Just think about it: a small increase in a salary might make the difference between your "B+" and "A-."

Beyond the broader benefits, considering the recent tragedy at Virginia Tech, the rise in

tuition could not have come at a better time. When many students wonder if such a travesty might happen at the College, the extra money could be put toward better security in order to ensure that all of us feel safe in the place that we call home.

While we want the best staff and resources, the students must remain the first priority and an increase in tuition, while significant, will help all parties.

*Rachael Siemon-Carome, a freshman at the College, is a staff columnist. Her columns appear on Fridays.*

## Letters to the Editor

### Articles in Informer cause outrage

To the Editor:

Two articles recently featured in The Virginia Informer helped me realize that that student newspaper is the pinnacle of unprofessional and utterly irresponsible journalism.

The first article in question, "A Whole New World: Studying in Jordan," by Editor-in-Chief Joe Luppino-Esposito, a junior, promises a look into junior Robert Landicho's travels in Jordan. What is presented is a poorly constructed argument on the contrasts between Jordanian and American ideals. Luppino-Esposito explains that "war and violence was [sic] almost laughable to many people there [Jordan]" and follows this statement with a quote from Robert: "They said that joking about it was the only way to get through it." I live with veterans at school and at home; both of them often joke about their experiences, but I would never make claims that they consider war and violence to be laughable.

Most jarring are Luppino-Esposito's words on Islam. He assumes that, because the society of Jordan is "based in Islamic law, [it] means that freedoms are severely limited." As a middle eastern studies major, I am appalled at this comment. I do not deny that inequality and corruption exists in states where Islamic law is present, but Islamic law is not the root of the problem. Luppino-Esposito's comment is absolutely offensive to Muslims. If one actually examines the statements made by Landicho, one would notice that no words support Luppino-Esposito's claim that everyday life in Jordan is "wholly unjust." Perhaps Luppino-Esposito should have asked senior Walid Kildani for his input, as he is a Jordanian student.

Thankfully, sophomore Nick Hoelker was able to feature Kildani in his article "Students challenge Bechtold's objectivity." But, like Luppino-Esposito, Hoelker selectively utilizes quotes to allege the anti-Israel sentiment of Professor Peter Bechtold. Interestingly, all quotes supporting this alleged stance are given by anonymous students. More shocking is the fact that Hoelker never contacted Bechtold himself. But I find it most callous of Hoelker to publish students' references to Bechtold as "the Fuhrer." I think Hoelker and his editors should be aware that Bechtold's father, who passed away in late 2006, was almost killed by the Nazis. Bechtold's aunt was killed in a Nazi gas chamber.

I am not writing this letter to attack the Informer. I wholeheartedly believe that multiple voices should be printed on campus — it's essential to our freedom of speech to have these perspectives available. There

is some talent at the Informer; the impeccable writing of sophomore RC Rasmus is always a pleasure. However, the obvious misrepresentation of fact and lack of research evident in the articles by Luppino-Esposito and Hoelker is disturbing. I am not a legal scholar, so I would not be so ruthless as to make claims of libel. If anything, I hope Luppino-Esposito and Hoelker consider offering the Muslim community, as well as Bechtold a most sincere apology.

— Cliff Martin, '08

### Preserving Confederate history

To the Editor:

I read Keirstin Flythe's letter in the April 24 issue of The Flat Hat as a personal attack. You see, I had ancestors on both sides in the Civil War. As a history student and Civil War buff, I admire the courage and fortitude that my ancestors displayed when they decided to take up arms and fight for their beliefs. They faced harrowing conditions and gruesome battles, and I simply have to respect my ancestors for that.

However, Flythe's last two paragraphs prompted my response. First, Flythe states that she does not want children looking up to Confederate soldiers as role models because they were racist. Yet, the fact is that 19th-century American society was extremely racist. Even some Northern abolitionists could be considered racist: some of them wanted to free the slaves, only to ship them to Africa. Many Union soldiers were also racist. In fact, many soldiers that fought in the American Revolution and the War of 1812 were racist. Should we stop honoring them as well? An historian, or anyone for that matter, cannot judge previous eras with 21st-century values.

Second, the author stated that the creation of Confederate History Month would be an exercise in forgetting "how the Confederate heritage and its mentality alienated and oppressed the African-American race." Yet, by not creating Confederate History Month, we would be forgetting our history, which is a dangerous exercise.

Forgetting Confederate heritage would mean forgetting my ancestors, and that is something I am not prepared to do. Additionally, forgetting Confederate heritage would mean forgetting history, forgetting Southerners (the majority of whom did not own slaves) who fought for a cause they believed in, forgetting the free and enslaved blacks who fought for the Confederacy (see "Black Confederates" by Charles Barrow, J.H. Segars and R.B. Rosenberg) and forgetting the stories of millions of people.

— Timothy Huffstutter, '07



# VARIETY

## Cobblestone Couture showcases student fashions

By MAX FISHER  
FLAT HAT CHIEF STAFF WRITER

“I really like the eighties a lot,” junior Lana Shahmoradian said as she finished applying another layer of eye shadow to the already deeply blackened circles around one of her models’ eyes.

“I wanted my clothes to be something you could see someone rocking out in,” she said, describing the line of clothing she designed for last Saturday’s student fashion show. She began drawing a set of thick, exaggerated eyebrows across the model’s forehead, then paused in consideration. “Maybe not on this planet. Maybe on a different planet.”

Shahmoradian, who is a biology major and art minor trying to decide between medical school and launching her own fashion line, presented her clothing to around 200 fellow students at Saturday evening’s show in the University Center Chesapeake rooms. Dozens of models — all of whom were students — took turns marching down the makeshift runway to a background of soft lighting, deafening European dance music and plenty of flashing cameras.

The student designer was one of six to have her work displayed. Her own line, which she titled “Heavy Metal Unicorn,” was marked by common themes of tinsel, electric blue and duct tape. Her dramatic use of makeup, she said, complements the clothing.

“My clothes are kind of out there and I wanted makeup to match that,” she said. “I’m trying to get the audience to think ‘half woman, half robot.’”

Shahmoradian, who grew up playing violin and piano, but has since switched to computer-driven electronic music, said that music played an important role in her designs. “I could probably dedicate each outfit to a song, a specific song I listened to on repeat while I was designing it.” In the programs handed out before the show, she dedicates her designs to French techno band Daft Punk and her mother.

If there is such a thing as polar

opposites in fashion, then Shahmoradian spent Saturday’s pre-show preparations sharing a makeup table with hers. Quietly stitching away among the buzz of abstract post-modernism that defined Heavy Metal Unicorn’s models was senior Lisa D’Aromando, who was putting the finishing touches on her own line, “BellAmore.” She held pins in her mouth between hurried bites from a take-out salad from University Center Center Court as she attempted a few last-second changes to an unassumingly normal yellow dress.

“Clothing shows your personality,” said D’Aromando, whose prim, carefully colored designs were punctuated with bits of bright, charming jewelry.

“I like making clothes comfortable and still dressy,” she said, adding that she encouraged her models to have fun and even to smile — a fashion show faux pas that drew snickers from a handful of high-minded spectators. “That might not be the way they do it in New York, but I want to have fun with it,” she said.

D’Aromando’s attitude is more businesslike when it comes to her jewelry. An art student turned marketing major, she has sold her designs online, to stores around her hometown on the New Jersey coast and to her sorority sisters in Kappa Kappa Gamma. D’Aromando’s sorority features prominently in her work — two of her models are sorority sisters. Much of her clothing and jewelry include the distinctive blues of the sorority’s logo. D’Aromando’s website (which features an elaborate quadruple-stranded necklace inspired by Angelina Jolie) bears the fleur-de-lis, which is also Kappa’s official symbol.

D’Aromando, who said she drew inspiration from the art she saw when visiting extended family in Italy, is not out to change the world with her designs. “I started making jewelry because it can dress anything up,” she said.

Somewhere between the casual sociability of BellAmore and the dadaistic feminism of Heavy Metal Unicorn was sophomore Max Kaplan. Meeting Kaplan is not easy because he is taking classes in Washington, D.C. this

semester. Between the briskly formal e-mails Kaplan fires off from his BlackBerry, the no-nonsense entourage that keeps eager fans at bay and then, of course, the adoring fans themselves (“Max is, like, really amazing,” one wide-eyed student told me in response to a totally unrelated question about when the show would be starting), one finds that Kaplan’s celebrity looms large in the College’s fashion design community.

Kaplan has certainly put in the work to earn the respect that was so evident at Saturday’s show. “It’s a passion,” he said. He had been working on this year’s show since he and senior Elizabeth Moore set up last spring’s fashion show — the first of its kind at the College. He and Moore were so happy with the results that they decided to form a fashion design club, which they named Cobblestone Couture, and to hold the show every spring.

Even from three hours away in Washington, D.C., Kaplan’s enthusiasm is unmatched. “It was tough to get everyone together last semester because of classes,” he said as he jogged across the runway to make a last-second change to the lighting before the 4 p.m. run-through. He was worried about the photos coming out overexposed. “Last year we were packed. It brings a big mix of people. We get football players, sorority girls, art students — everyone comes together,” he said as he fussed over a large lighting stand borrowed from Swem Library.

Kaplan, despite his looming reputation, has a slight frame and a self-effacing, eagerly polite manner. He moved the stand toward the wall, away from where the photographers would be. He reasoned that it might not make for ideal lighting, but that the photographers would be more comfortable. Satisfied,

he started jogging again, this time toward the dressing room where he needed to start the run-through. “We set this up to think about clothing, design, art, pop culture — to think about all these things,” he said. He disappeared backstage, where he had been at work since 8 a.m., and did not reemerge until the end of the

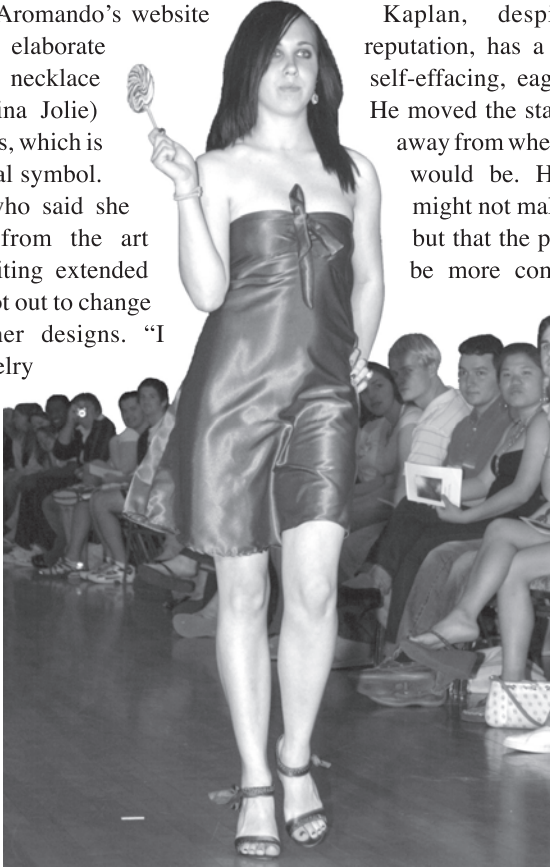


ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT  
**Senior Lisa D’Aromando, designer of Bell-Amore, makes last minute alterations before her model hits the runway.**

show, when he marched out to thunderous applause and, with one of his models in hand, leaned over to kiss his mother in the front row.

Kaplan relied on freshman Tage Waite and senior Megan Dorward to help run everything. During Saturday afternoon’s many run-throughs, Waite stood at the end of the runway, arms crossed, watching the models. “Dawn, slow down a little bit. Watch your walk. Remember your arms. That’s good,” she shouted across the massive hall. “You want people to focus on the clothes,” she noted, “not the model.” Once the show started, Waite went out front, managing the show’s music and helping to take tickets. She said her goal after college is to supervise professional fashion shows. “I don’t design myself, but I really like fashion,” she said.

“You just have to put your game face on,” sophomore Yodit Kifle said of the stresses of being a fashion model. Models spent three weeks learning how to correctly walk down the runway. (“The walk has a New York style or a Paris style. Ours is in the middle,” Moore said.) Kifle said she had been called to do fittings with her designer, junior Julia Elkin, in the middle of the night. Kifle playfully shouted at a fellow model who was doing a practice run, trying to distract her. The other model cracked a smile and Kifle laughed. She said that everything, the makeup, the walking lessons, the months of designing and planning, all come down to the turn at the end of the runway. “You have to connect as much as possible with the cameras.”



PHOTOS BY ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT  
**The show’s first model donned an eggplant, satin dress for Elizabeth’s Nguyen’s collection, ellezile.**

### CONFUSION CORNER

## Senioritis spurs ‘Great Escapes’

Has anyone ever seen the movie “The Great Escape?” I’m going to try to sum it up in a way that is not too derivative of Eddie Izzard: Steve McQueen and some other dudes that don’t matter as much

because they are not Steve Mc-friggin’-Queen escape from a Nazi POW camp. They accomplish this amazing feat only by pooling their respective strengths: Some of the guys are expert tunnel diggers (luckily enough), some are really good at forging documents and some poor sissies are put in charge of making clothes for going incognito post-escape. Steve McQueen’s skill is looking badass and convincing everyone else to help him while he hangs out and plays baseball.

Questions that should be arising: What does this have to do with student life at the College? How do I get to be as awesome as Steve McQueen? And how does Lauren Bell manage to make less and less sense each successive week?

Answer: I staged my very own ‘Great Escape’ today. As one of your fellow College students, my triumph over oppression and entrapment somehow affects your life. My license to be ridiculous in print stems in part from that tiny bit of McQueen-ness that I am occasionally able to muster: My staging of a ‘Great Escape’ put me, in some way, on a level with La McQueen; The Flat Hat would never stop Steve McQueen from writing whatever he damn well pleased, and it hasn’t yet stopped me.

The story: In my economics class this morning, my professor announced that we would be playing a game. She then proceeded to hand out game instructions that were longer and more complicated than any of our lectures had been thus far. Just as Steve McQueen does not play games with his escape plans, Lauren Bell does not play games with economics — particularly when they hurt her brain. I decided to make a break for it. I waited until a distracting com-

motion started. In my case, it was people getting up to play a game, not an air raid like in the movie, but, whatever. Seeing my chance, I stood, looked around, and fled to the clean air of freedom. Maybe it’s not as dramatic as a motorcycle chase to Switzerland, and maybe it didn’t involve expert tunnel diggers, but I thought my escape was pretty great.

I don’t think I’m alone in the staging of Steve McQueen-style hijinks these days: The weather is beautiful, classes are almost over and shoot, I’m graduating. A lot of people talk about senioritis, but as I look around at my senior friends, I see something a little stronger, a littler crazier and a little more Steve McQueen-badass-ier: We are experiencing severe senior year don’t-care syndrome. I’m not talking apathy here. Apathy is boring and lazy and lacking in passion. We are passionate, but instead of being passionate about our homework, we’re passionate about getting out of here. We’re still energetic, but lately we’re energetically getting in the last of our undergraduate shenanigans instead of energetically cruising the library stacks.

Example: I ran into a friend the afternoon after a particularly disastrous (in a fun way) wine and cheese night. As we lurched towards each other, we didn’t say “Hi” or “How are you?” I just looked at him and said, “I skipped econ.” He replied, “I skipped Arabic.” Then we cackled maniacally, gave each other high-fives, and ran off to our respective destinations, waving our arms and shouting, “Seniors! Woool!”

We do this because, like Steve McQueen in “The Great Escape,” seniors are good at looking cool and hanging out while other people work hard. You underclassmen will still be digging tunnels and hiding dirt for at least a year (in a metaphorical sense — unless you’re a geology major). Come May 20, seniors will be hopping on our motorcycles and cruising out of here (in a metaphorical sense — unless you’re actually Steve McQueen).

*Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She has her very own team of expert tunnel diggers. Jealous?*

## ‘Orpheus’ descends on PBK

By ASHLEY GRIGGS  
THE FLAT HAT

Prejudice, repressed passion, conformity — these are all terms that describe what lies beneath the surface of the old Southern town that serves as the current backdrop to the College’s theatrical stage. This weekend, the College’s theatre department will present “Orpheus Descending,” a Tennessee Williams play about a drifter who wanders into to a small town and stirs up more than just trouble. The show will run from April 26 to 29 at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall.

“This is definitely one of the most disturbing plays that [Tennessee Williams] ever wrote,” publicity director Kelsey Meiklejohn, a sophomore, said. “This play has a troubled history,” director and theater professor Richard Palmer said. “It failed when it first opened and was only a moderate success when William’s rewrote it 17 years later for a Broadway opening.”

According to Palmer, “the plot hinges on a love story that Williams seemed incapable of developing fully.” The actors and directors involved in putting on the play often find it difficult to develop the relationships that Williams incorporates in the lines of the text. In fact, the challenges that it brings to the cast and crew serve as testaments to the dedication and passion necessary to successfully take on this play.

This brings us to the theatre department here at the College,

which is known to be spirited and ambitious. However, the students are up for the challenge of portraying the obscure complexities of Williams’ theatrical mind.

“The longer roles are much more demanding than the actors have had an opportunity to do before,” Palmer said, “but they have risen beautifully to the challenge, ... We talk a lot about acting as risk taking. It’s exciting to actually see it happen.”

The idea to perform “Orpheus Descending” as the theatre department’s final spring performance stems from a freshman seminar course that several of the actors took.

“It was the very first theater class I took at the College and quite possibly my favorite,” sophomore Kerry Stintson said. “It was a great mix of people, and I loved working with all of them. We focused on ‘Orpheus Descending’ and each wrote a paper on different aspects of the play — the original cast, director, ‘Battle of the Angels’ (the one act on which this play is based) etc. Actually, the department accepts student suggestions for their main stage season.” Thus, after being submitted 10 times last year for consideration, the play was finally chosen to be performed on the College’s main stage.

Audiences can expect extremely devoted acting. Several student actors who typically play leading roles will make cameo appearances throughout the performance, showing that the

love for the theater that marked the playwright is also present within the College’s theater community. “Williams may have cared more about this play than anything else he wrote,” Palmer said. “Its earliest version was his first professionally staged, full-length play, and he literally put himself in it as part of the two main characters, both male and female.”

Those involved in publicizing for the performance are optimistic about the projected turnout and reception of this intricate piece. “We’ve seen a recent growth in our student audiences,” Meiklejohn said. Although the King and Queen Ball and other springtime activities are expected to draw large crowds over the weekend, the cast and crew remain positive that they will have a loyal crowd, especially after the support received for “Ramayana,” a performance put on earlier this year. “We all have a passion and we love to involve others in our passion,” Meiklejohn said.

“The play ... requires nothing special from the audience other than close attention and willingness to ride an emotional roller coaster,” Palmer said. And so it goes without saying that the list of stimulating weekend activities has been substantially amplified.

“Orpheus Descending” will run today and tomorrow at 8 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m. The performances will take place at Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$5 at the box office.



Lauren Bell





# That Girl

## Dina Filiberto

BY ELIZABETH DERBY  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

The College in the springtime is deceptively sunny; days greet you with blue skies and bright-faced tulips and the odd pedestrian in a powdered wig — all harmless enough. But if you’re the average perfectionist-activist-volunteer-student, the academic and social pressure is enormous. Dina Filiberto — accomplished athlete, studious pre-med, world traveler and social dynamo — is a connoisseur of this lifestyle. This week’s That Girl reflects on four years at this entertaining, sometimes demanding institution and being a “mafia princess.”

**I hear you are a runner.**  
I ran a half-marathon about a year ago, and I was training for a full marathon until I got a stress fracture. At the time I was running with senior Alicia Borgess, and we trucked it about 18 miles a day. That could be why I essentially broke my foot and had to be on crutches for a few weeks. I still run, though. It’s a good time to think, de-stress, think about everything. It’s a good change of pace from sitting around studying or lounging around.

**Would you ever consider coaching of any kind?**

Well, I do life coach part-time. I make decisions for those not stable enough to make their own. I send inspirational quotes to my friends sometimes and make big decisions for them when they can’t decide what to do. For example, I decide whether or not [my friend] should join a sorority, whether or not to study abroad, where she should go, what internships to take. That’s why I appreciate life-coaching skills — I can help my friends, inspire them to better things in life.

**So you’re pre-med?**  
Yep. I’m going to SUNY Downstate next year. It’s going to be pretty sweet. I don’t know for sure which field I want to go into, but I’ve wanted to be a doctor since I was in eighth grade. It’s nice to have finally gotten there. I’ve always liked bio and science. It was never a real choice that I made, and I’ve just always wanted to go into it, so it wasn’t hard to make a decision about what to do once I got here.

**Have you had experience to prepare you for the medical field?**

Two summers ago, I went to Beijing, China, through a public health program with Northwestern. We took Chinese classes as well as courses in public health and traditional Chinese medicine. We also went to all the tourist areas — the Great Wall of

China, gardens and places like that. It lasted for eight weeks; it was pretty crazy. Asia’s way different from America. We went on all these trips to teaching hospitals and pharmacies and nursing homes and rural clinics and the Center for Disease Control in Beijing. They gave us tours and showed us around. High-up public officials gave us lectures about what they were doing and what the health status was in China. They told us that AIDS isn’t a problem there, that SARS was something they’d learned from but it wasn’t a really big deal. The government doesn’t ever acknowledge that anything is wrong — they have an image that they want to portray, especially to Americans, so they would tell us all these things — but AIDS is a problem, HIV is a problem. HIV is a problem everywhere.

**Where else have you been?**  
I’ve also been to Italy. I went with a W&M study abroad program, which was really cool. I learned some Italian, which was especially great for me because my family is Italian, and it was great to see the homeland, “The Old Country.” Some people think I’m in the mafia, you know, they call me a “mafia princess,” perhaps. My father owns a garbage company in New York City. It’s the family business that’s been around for about 100 years. It’s been there forever and we’re all Italian and, well, it is what it is. I don’t have any words to explain it. Make your own deduction.

**Tell me about being a Monroe Scholar.**  
I went to Costa Rica with my Monroe money and I volunteered at an orphanage for mentally and physically disabled children. It was another good thing to be involved in before going into medicine — I really got to see who you’re getting involved with, to see really sick children that you’d be dealing with and whether or not you can handle it. These kids are orphans; when their parents found out that they were disabled they just abandoned them. So we would visit them, pay attention to them, go see them in the infirmary and help put tubes down their throats to help them breathe.

**So what’s the best part of second semester senior year?**  
Hanging out with your friends. Since I got into med school last semester I don’t feel any stress about where I’m going to be or what I’m doing next year. Now I’m just cruising through classes until the end, getting to spend time with my best friends. It’s also really interesting to see where people are going to be next year, what they’re doing with their lives. I really like going out every night.

# Trojan sparks sexual conversation

I spent last Thursday and Friday staying in a very chic hotel in Atlanta, eating free food and talking about sex. I met Dr. Drew from “Loveline” on MTV and the former Surgeon General Dr. Jocelyn Elders.

## BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate  
Prengaman

I’m not telling you this to brag (much), I’m telling you this because the fancy hotel and the free condoms were part of a roundtable discussion among college journalists about sexuality and sexual health issues. We talked about a lot of things: good, bad and getting better. I thought, as the official representative of the College, I ought to give you all the highlights.

We talked about the need for a real dialogue about sex and sexuality, starting well before college — starting well before puberty. Kids need to learn that sex isn’t inherently bad and, as Dr. Elders said repeatedly, “We are all sexual beings.” As a staunch supporter of comprehensive sex education, she was fired from her government position for suggesting that masturbation be discussed and explained in schools. Everybody should know how to masturbate, she said, “because you know you’ll always be having sex with someone you love.”

Focusing more on the issues that specifically face our peer group, we talked about the pervasive “hook-up” culture and our over-reliance on alcohol to feel brave and comfortable enough to be sexual. Do we drink to have sex? It sounds horrible at first, but then, recall how many times you’ve heard a friend say, “I want to get wasted tonight so I can hook up.” Alcohol is our main sexual lubricant in two ways, it seems: it helps us feel brave enough to make a move or accept the drunken come-on of someone else, and it also functions as an excuse in the morning, so that we aren’t judged by our peers for engaging in casual sex.

“Oh man, I was so trashed, I made out with this guy whose name I didn’t know” is an acceptable story to tell in the morning, while “I made the sober decision to choose to have sex with a guy that I am not emotionally interested in because I enjoy having sex” is rarely admitted. As a group of college students, we clearly weren’t anti-drinking or anti-sex, just interested in seeing a separation of the two. As one girl put it, “If you always have sex drunk, who owns your sexuality: you or the beer?” So, we talked about how to get people to be more comfortable being sexual sober, so that we wouldn’t need the alcohol in these ways.



attracted to that involves sexuality (tension or action) along with some form of interaction besides just sex. A middle ground between the committed relationship so many of us aren’t ready for right now and the random, drunken one-night stand that so often ends up in bad or awkward sex. Sounds pretty good, right? Well, apparently, this new “dating” is starting to show up on college campuses, moving from the deep South up in our general direction. Some of us are already there; some of us think it sounds terrible and the current system suits them just fine. But, for everyone interested in finding that sexual “happy medium,” now’s the time to create that change.

Later, at an after-conference party in one of the girl’s suites, I learned some things during a game of Kings. I’ve got a new position for you all to try: It’s called the Leapfrog and it came highly recommended. He lies down, and she climbs on top, but instead of resting her legs on the bed or ground, she props her ankles up behind her on his legs so that she is entirely supported by him. As he thrusts up to her, she bounces like, well, a frog I guess. I also learned about Trojan’s new vibrating rings, a one-time-use rubbery-ring to be worn around the penis, with textured edges and a tiny battery that vibrates for 20 minutes. It helps the clitoris have more fun during intercourse.

I learned about how some other colleges and universities have a lot fewer sexual health resources on campus than we do — our health center has a wide variety of testing services and information — and about how high some schools have set the bar. I learned how lucky we are to have an administration that supports us having an open dialogue about sexuality — in this column, organizations, performances and classes. And, most importantly, I learned how valuable that dialogue is, and how much we need to keep working and talking and thinking about healthy sex and sexuality, so that we can have more and more of it.

*Kate Prengaman is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She’d like to thank Trojan for the opportunity to participate in this discussion forum, and for all the free stuff.*

Of course, you already know them. Mills- or is it Oathbreaker now?- but Heroman has yet to meet them.

This is Marcus Monocle, CEO of Covell Oil. His eye-piece has x-ray vision capabilities.

Ah, the League has arrived. Time for introductions.

Over here we have the Parasoldier, who wields a mind-controlling umbrella.

Finally: The Cosmopolitan. He can teleport to any point he touches on a globe.

Together, we are the Renaissance League. And together, we will rule the world!

Next: The Plot!

It was Marcus who found out your identity for me, Heroman. Using his x-ray monocle.

### Heroman

By Thomas Baumgardner

## SUDOKU

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Easy

8	7	9	6	2	8	1	9	4
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9	2	8	9	4	7	8	6	1
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Hard

Directions:  
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

Source: krazydad.com

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# REVIEWS

## Fresh vocals set Twilight Sad apart

By CHRIS KAPLAN  
THE FLAT HAT

A shimmering, guitar-heavy wall of sound imperceptibly slips into the ear at some point in the first track, picking up force and then remaining a fixture throughout the album. It conjures thoughts of distant landscapes, while a heavy Scottish accent complements it with a stream of evocative, if at times inscrutable, lyrics. They are usually sung, though sometimes spoken, and occasionally screamed. An accordion navigates its way through this sonic tempest, along with another, often playfully twangy guitar accompaniment.

This is the sound of Glasgow-based indie rock group The Twilight Sad. Following up its self-titled EP from last year with the release of “Fourteen Autumns and Fifteen Winters,” this first full album is an impressive collection of songs.

Though the band is composed of mostly traditional rock instrumentation, the aforementioned accent

of singer James Graham and the accordion add an alluring spin to the group’s sound. In addition, there is a strong, steady drumming that often pounds through the stormy guitar and accordion blend, giving solid support to a persistent, if at times roaming, backdrop.

What’s most compelling about The Twilight Sad is how its music comes together, with vocals serving as an appropriate balance to the expansive instrumentation behind it. Whether Graham’s lines soar or are barely audible, his tone remains intimate, even vulnerable. And while a fury of sound surrounds him, he seems distant, or at least unaffected by it all, as though he’s found his way into the eye of the hurricane and plans to stay there.

There’s a steady singularity to his voice — an emotional intensity that gives you the feeling he’s recalling distant, sometimes painful, memories. Fortunately, the lyrics, when intelligible, aren’t depressing in the laughably maudlin manner of

many similarly styled bands. At the same time, however, there is an underlying melancholy, but it successfully walks the fine line between poignancy and platitude.

This is apparent on the first track, “Cold Days from the Birdhouse.” Graham repeats a line several times to the steady beat of drums and what will soon be a familiar background of cymbals crashing against the guitar and accordion. There is a pause and then Graham moves to another line: “So where are your manners?” he asks, almost pleading. The question carries the song nearly to its finish and finally fades away. The only remaining sound is a high piano key that has been thumping its way through the entirety of the track, veiled until the end. Subtle discoveries like these are one of the more exciting rewards for listening to the tracks several times through, as they can be picked out earlier in the track if one knows what to listen for.

In the next song, “That Summer, At Home I Had Become the Invisible Boy,” the reminiscent feeling is especially evident, as Graham recounts a bizarre, likely fictitious recollection of when he was 14. “The kids are on fire in the bedroom,” he says, in what has to be one of the more surreal lines of recent memory. Then he screams, “They’re standing outside / And they’re, they’re looking in,” sounding incredulous over what he’s recounting. The playful guitar resurfaces from the first track, flits somewhere in the background among the accordion and heavy bass guitar as the song eventually fades, leaving only that shimmering mainstay. It takes a few times listening, but one soon discovers what emotional potency is embedded in those lines.

Throughout the rest of the album, Graham remains earnest without coming off as forced. The instrumentals also stay fresh with the unique combination of the droning background guitar, accordion and that other simple but vibrant guitar line that peeks in and out of several tracks. All of these elements become more prominent and more savory upon repeated listening.

This is an album that is worth listening to several times over. The initially hidden and surprising aspects, such as the persistent piano key or the vocal and instrumental combinations, reveal themselves after a time and add to the enjoyment and understanding of the listener. The Twilight Sad plays wonderfully textured music deserving of these repeat listens. Many will find themselves compelled to play this album repeatedly, and one should in order to fully appreciate the many subtleties of the band’s sound.

★★★★☆



COURTESY PHOTO • SADDLE CREEK

## ‘Cassadaga’ fruitfully mixes folk, indie, rock

By ALEX GUILLÉN  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. REVIEWS EDITOR

“Cassadaga,” the seventh album from Nebraska-based folk rock group Bright Eyes, is a spiritual journey of the soul experienced by lead singer and songwriter Conor Oberst. He takes listeners along with him as he rejects organized religion for a more natural approach to his beliefs. The album is named after a small town in Florida of the same name in which many psychics reside. Cassadaga is also mentioned in the lyrics of the second track.

It is hard to classify what genre “Cassadaga” is. It is mix of alternative, rock, folk, indie, classical and country, and features more than just Bright Eyes members Oberst, Mike Mogis and Nate Walcott. Thirty-two artists contribute to the album, many of them regulars in Nebraskan indie music.

Especially notable are Elizabeth “Z” Burg of The Like and Sherri and Stacy DuPree of Easley. Some of the album’s best sounds come from string instruments. The guitar is featured in many songs and is played by either Oberst or David Rawlings, notable as a producer of Old Crow Medicine Show. Violinist Anton Patzner is one of the album’s hidden delights. His outstanding performance is a major highlight of several songs and lends the album a slightly classical sound.

Unfortunately, the album begins with what is probably the worst track, titled “Clairaudients (Kill or Be Killed).” The first and last parts of the song are a woman reminiscent of an old grandmother talking about traveling around the United States. This is strange enough, but the monologue is accompanied by a cacophonous orchestra playing what seems to be music from a B-list horror flick. In between them is an okay song, but it is completely drowned out by the surrounding discordance.

The second track, “Four Winds,” was released as an EP a month before the “Cassadaga” release. The strong guitar and violin that begin this song more than make up for the first track’s unpleasantries. “Four Winds” is a mix of country and Irish folk in which Oberst has written lyrics that do not beat around the bush. “The Bible’s blind, the Torah’s deaf, the Koran’s mute / If you burn them all together, you get close to the truth.” Or consider theses lyrics, a reference to a W. B. Yeats poem: “And it’s the sum of man / Slouching towards Bethlehem / A heart just can’t contain all of that empty space.” The strong anti-religious message screams about society moving forward and progressing without dignity or any actual improvement.

The third track, “If the Brakeman Turns My Way,” is in the style of Bob Dylan, marked by poetic lyrics and a beautiful metaphor. Life, Oberst says, is like stowing away on a train; your course is determined completely by the brakeman, the person who operates railroad switches. It single-handedly sets the mood for the rest of the album.

One of the best tracks is “Make a Plan to Love Me,” a song straight from a 1950s high school dance. The singer begs the woman he loves to try and love him. It’s straightforward, it’s old fashioned, it’s eclectic, it’s slightly creepy. The message is simple: the plans and schemes of life can sometimes distract from something more wonderful.

“Classic Cars” recounts a relationship that was once strong, but is now broken. Folk singer Gillian Welsh provides superb backup vocals, adding a poignant female voice to the song. The next track, “Middleman,” features a wonderful metaphor for continuing life: “The dead can hide beneath the ground and the birds can always fly / But the rest of us do what we must in constant compromise.”

Probably the best track on “Cassadaga” is “Cleanse Song.” It marks a turn in the overall narration of the album, both in lyrical content and musical style. It slows down, providing more poetic lyrics than some previous songs. It also contains a reference to the terrorist acts of Sept. 11: “See the new pyramids down in old Manhattan / From the roof of a friend I watched an empire ending.” The songs advocates not to let the tragedies of life be depressing, but to look for something that will cleanse and rejuvenate.

The penultimate track, “I Must Belong Somewhere,” denotes the final change from the dark undertones of the previous few unremarkable tracks. It marks a hopeful new beginning and indicates that the singer truly loves where he ended up. The final track, “Lime Tree,” returns to the slow tempo of the earlier songs without the dark imagery associated with that slowdown. “Everything gets smaller now the further that I go / Towards the mouth and the reunion of the known and the unknown / Consider yourself lucky if you think of it as home / You can move mountains



COURTESY PHOTO • FAT CAT

## Boring, recycled plot plagues ‘Women’

By RACHAEL SIEMON-CAROME  
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

We have seen the story before. A man in his late 20s realizes he doesn’t know what he wants to do with his life, so he drops everything and leaves town to find himself. Sound familiar? “In the Land of Women” is essentially “Garden State” set in Michigan, only much less clever and with a couple of unexpected plot twists.

The film begins when Carter Webb, played by the typically adorable Adam Brody (“The OC”), a 26-year-old softcore porn writer, is dumped by his foreign supermodel girlfriend. (Don’t worry, that confused me, too.) Feeling deeply depressed when he realizes how pathetic his life really is, he returns to his mother’s hometown in Michigan to take care of his feeble old grandmother, and it is here that he meets the three generations of women who are meant to inspire him and provide meaning to his disheveled life.

First is his grandmother, played by the brilliant Olympia Dukakis (“Steel Magnolias”), who firmly believes she is going to die despite any actual symptoms of illness. She makes no excuses for her awkward and inappropriate behavior, providing brilliant comedy in between the depressing drama of this film.

Second is the mother from next door, Sarah, played by Meg Ryan (“You’ve Got Mail”), who is quite convincing in spite of her frightening plastic surgery. Sarah appears to have the perfect life of a rich suburban housewife, but of course her life is far from perfect. Her husband is having an affair, her teenage daughter hates her and she has just found out she has breast cancer. So, of course she turns to Carter, the charming and precocious next-door neighbor, to remind her of when she was young and to look at her in a way that her husband hasn’t in years.

Representing the third generation is Sarah’s daughter Lucy, played by the up-and-coming Kristen Stewart (“Panic Room”). In the midst of high school drama, she remains dazed and confused about which boys to kiss and what to wear to the next party. She provides Carter with the taste of an adolescent experience that he never had, while he provides her with the timeless advice that she will, in fact, survive the humiliation of high school.

Three women and one confused guy lead to an array of plot twists, especially considering that he

manages to make out with two of them. Overall, “In the Land of Women” seems like something you would see on Lifetime, filled with every unbearable cliché about finding yourself at any age. At one point, during one of his rants about life, Carter actually utters the words “it’s messy and it’s chaotic, and it’s not ever, ever what you expect.” The worst part of it is that he actually believes that he is saying something meaningful.

In spite of some hilarious moments and a couple strong performances, the film is lost before it ever comes

to the screen. The script is filled with one-dimensional characters and too many clichés about how messy life can be. First time writer-director Jonathan Kasdan, while showing promise, fails to create characters that are actually worth caring about. Carter is far too self-absorbed to actually grow and there are too many scenes of him just staring into the distance instead of actually doing something to fix his life. At best, this movie is worth renting, but at that point you might as well just rent “Garden State.”

★★☆☆☆



COURTESY PHOTO • WARNER INDEPENDENT

**Adam Brody [CENTER], best known for his work on Fox’s “The OC,” stars as Carter Webb in the new coming-of-age film, “In the Land of Women.” Carter learns a lot about himself through his interactions with teenager Lucy Hardwicke, played by Kristen Stewart [LEFT], and her younger sister Paige, played by Mackenzie Vega.**





## Singled Out

### Maroon 5 — “Makes Me Wonder”

**From the band's forthcoming album "It Won't Be Soon Before Long"**

If you preorder Maroon 5's upcoming album on iTunes, you get "Makes Me Wonder" now, two bonus tracks once the album is released and a chance to buy concert tickets before the general public. Interesting marketing ploy.

— *compiled by Conor McKay*

### iTunes top 10 albums

1. *It Won't Be Soon Before Long* — **Maroon 5**
2. *Favourite Worst Nightmare* — **Arctic Monkeys**
3. *The Best Damn Thing* — **Avril Lavigne**
4. *Back to Black* — **Amy Winehouse**
5. *Year Zero* — **Nine Inch Nails**
6. *Shock Value* — **Timbaland**
7. *Ain't Nothin' Like Me* — **Joe**
8. *Daughtry* — **Daughtry**
9. *Some Hearts* — **Carrie Underwood**
10. *Volta* — **Björk**

# HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

## Rosie trumped

After only one year on “The View,” Rosie O’Donnell is leaving the daytime talkshow. The show’s moderator and newest cohort, who will leave the show in June, balked when ABC execs tried to sign her to a three-year extension. ABC insists that public fights with businessman extraordinaire Donald Trump, talkshow host Kelly Ripa, Fox pundit Bill O’Reilly and the Chinese-American population were not the cause of the star’s departure. Okay, sure.



## Bloke you, Snoop

Snoop Dogg apparently isn't up to snuff as far as Australia is concerned. The 35-year-old rapper was scheduled to perform down under at the MTV Australia Video Music Awards this weekend, but received a letter notifying him that he was not welcome in the country. Australian Immigration Minister Kevin Andrews said when asked about the situation, "[Snoop Dogg] doesn't seem like the sort of bloke we want in this country," citing the rapper's criminal record as the reason for the decision.



## “Girls Gone Wild” prison edition?

Surprise — “Girls Gone Wild” creator Joe Francis is an accused sexual predator. An 18-year-old woman has accused the soft-core porn mastermind of coming up to her at a party and touching her breasts, buttocks and inner thighs, despite repeatedly telling him to stop. Francis could face up to six months in jail and a \$2,000 fine if convicted. However, sexual deviancy isn’t Francis’ only problem. He also faces charges of tax evasion that could give him 10 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine.



## Britney grounded

Britney Spears has made a fool of herself time and again, but this time it's her father, Jamie Spears, who is degrading the star's public image. In an e-mail sent to the New York Post last week, Britney's dad called his elder daughter out for bad behavior. Jamie wrote that Brit "blames ... her family for where she is today with her kids and career." Britney was quick to respond to her father, stating plainly, "We have never had a good relationship."

## Russell no. 1 in NFL draft

NFL DRAFT from page 10

LSU — After allowing 239 pass yards per game, and finishing last in the NFL in overall pass defense, the obvious choice for the Vikings is LSU's LaRon Landry. A talented safety, Landry will provide the Vikings with a much needed versatile playmaker in secondary.

**8. Atlanta Falcons** — Amobi Okoye, DT, Louisville — With arguably the most potential of any player in the draft, Okoye is an intriguing pick for the Falcons at number eight. Although Okoye is only 19 years old, the defensive tackle will provide instant production, as well as tremendous upside for the future.

**9. Miami Dolphins** — Alan Branch, DL, Michigan — After losing many key contributors on both sides of the ball dur-

ing the off-season, Miami could pursue a number of different approaches with the ninth pick. However, the Dolphins will opt to go the defensive route with their first round selection and nab Branch, a 330-pound behemoth who can effectively clog the running lanes no matter where he's drafted.

**10. Houston Texans** — Levi Brown, OT, Penn State — With David Carr out and Matt Schaub in at quarterback for the Texans, Houston wants to be absolutely sure that their newly acquired signal caller receives adequate pass protection. As the second-best offensive linemen in the draft, Brown is a logical choice for the Texans to become the trusted guardian of Schaub's blind spot.

*Graham Williamson is a sports columnist for The Flat Hat.*

# Lacrosse finishes season

**LACROSSE** *from page 10*

Sophomore midfielder Clare Dennis utilized a free position attempt just three minutes into the second half to cut the Lady Monarchs' lead to 9-8, but the College was held scoreless over the next twelve and a half minutes, while ODU went on a scoring rampage, notching five unanswered goals. When the dust settled, the Lady Monarchs held a comfortable 14-8 advantage over the Tribe.

At the 8:33 mark, freshman attacker Katie Rees scored to give the College hope, but ODU answered right back, tallying its 15th and final goal of the contest with seven minutes remaining. Senior midfielder Lizzy Bayly finished the scoring with her first goal of the season with just under three minutes left. Even as Beckstead held

strong in net, the College was unable to cut the deficit and catch the Lady Monarchs.

Although Sellers, Fitzgerald and Wong each recorded a team-high three groundballs, the Lady Monarchs finished with a 15-12 groundball advantage and out-shot the Tribe 39-29.

"We overcame many obstacles this year, including adjusting to a new coach, but we feel we ended the season on a positive note," Vitrano said. "Today was a bitter-sweet ending because all the seniors played a huge part in the game, but we are really going to miss playing for the College."

"I think that the senior class dealt with a lot of transition this year, but we feel like we really left a mark on Tribe lacrosse," Bayly said. "We strongly believe that things will only improve for Tribe lacrosse in the future."

# 'Cassadaga' mixes styles

**'CASSADAGA'** *from page 8*


with your misery if you don't." This profound metaphor is bolstered by his final words: "I took off my shoes and walked into the woods / I felt lost and found with every step I took." The final view, suggesting the philosophy of Henry David Thoreau, brings to a close Oberst's journey of the soul. He has questioned religion, analyzed spirituality and pondered mysticism. "Cassadaga" has a wonderfully eclectic variety of songs, with dozens of contributors who make each and every track truly unique.

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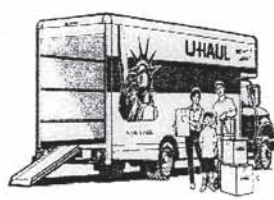


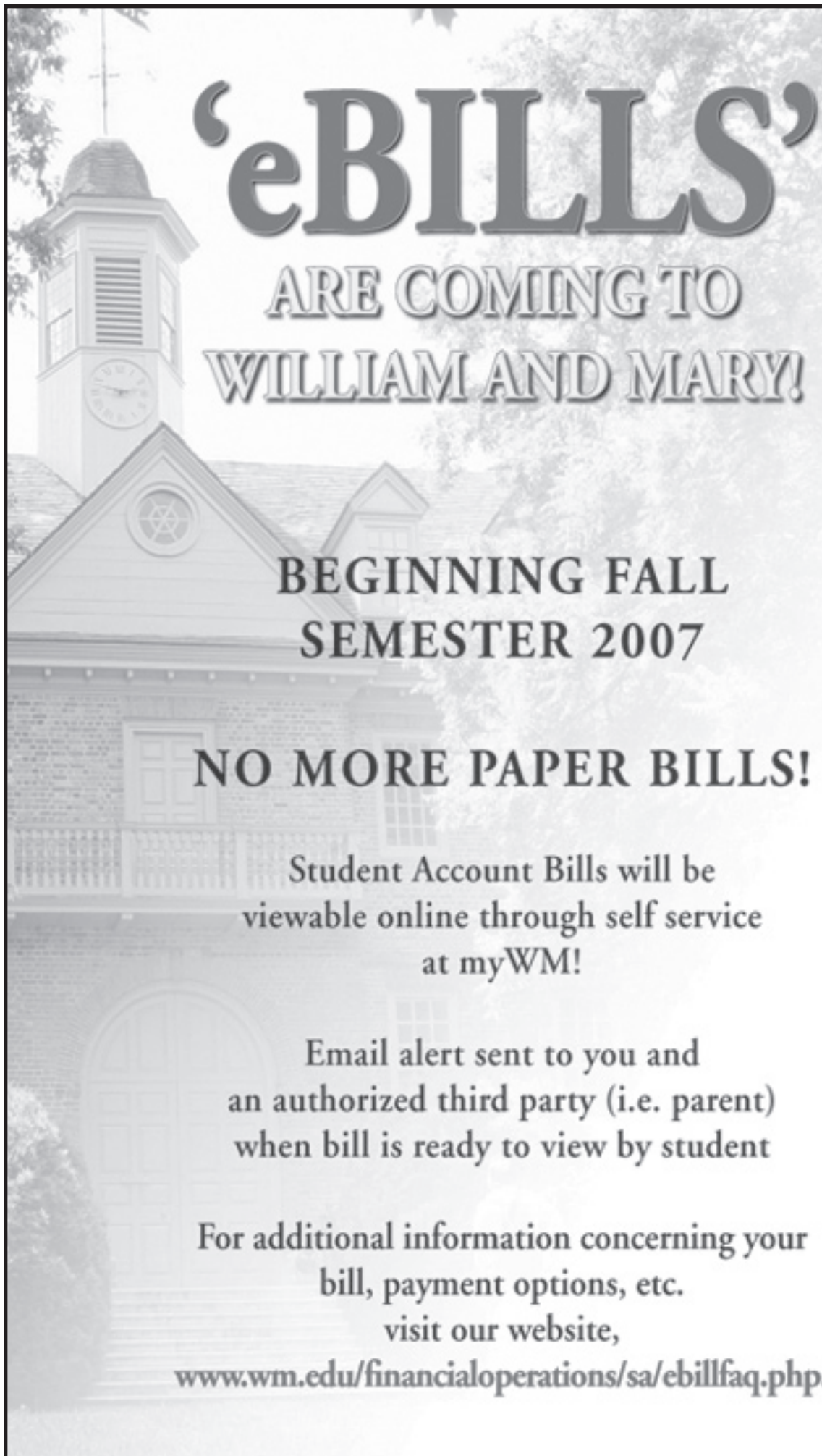
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FROM THE SIDELINES

Raiders to take Russell first in NFL draft

Mel Kiper Jr.'s endless analysis takes up around 75 percent of ESPN's daily programming, prospect Brady Quinn is relentless in insisting that his dreadful Sugar Bowl performance should have



Graham Williamson

no ill effects upon his draft status, and several high profile draft prospects have recently admitted to "experimenting" with marijuana. Yes, the 2007 NFL Draft has arrived, and come Saturday afternoon, Al Davis' Oakland Raiders will be on the clock.

1. Oakland Raiders — JaMarcus Russell, QB, LSU — Don't believe the

rumors that Oakland is considering passing up Russell, signing journeyman quarterback Tim Rattay and drafting the highly touted wide receiver Calvin Johnson. Russell and his cannon of a right arm will be a perfect complement to the Raiders' talented receiving tandem of Randy Moss and Jerry Porter.

2. Tampa Bay Buccaneers (Via trade with Lions) — Calvin Johnson, WR, Georgia Tech — After selecting receivers in three of the last five NFL drafts, the gun-shy Lions will pass up the most talented player in this year's draft and swap picks with the Bucs. Regardless of who is throwing him the ball, Johnson will thrive in Tampa Bay and develop into one of the NFL's elite receivers for years to come.

3. Cleveland Browns — Adrian Peterson, RB, Oklahoma — Since the days of Ernest Byner in the late eighties, Cleveland has lacked a power running game, and their current solution to the running back problem — aging free agent acquisition Jamal Lewis — provides no long-term solution. Therefore Peterson, a former Heisman candidate, is the obvious pick at the three spot for Phil Savage's Browns. After all, down by the shores of Lake Erie in the frigid months of December, the best way to win games is to pound the football.

4. Detroit Lions (Via trade with Buccaneers) — Gaines Adams, DE, Clemson — Detroit trades down, nabs an extra second-round pick and ends up with the man they wanted all along, defensive end Gaines Adams. Sounds like a good deal to me. After recording 12.5 sacks his senior year, Adams, the reigning ACC defensive player of the year, will provide the Lions with a game-changing pass rusher.

5. Arizona Cardinals — Joe Thomas, OT, Wisconsin — Arizona desperately needs help on the offensive line, and the beefy Thomas is just the man for the job. Not only does Thomas possess quick feet and ample size, but he also has the all-important offensive linemen mentality, as evidenced by Thomas' decision to go fishing with his father rather than sit around for five hours at the 2007 draft ceremony.

6. Washington Redskins — Brady Quinn, QB, Notre Dame — Sorry Brady, but NFL general managers know that just because you can consistently throw for 300+ yards and three touchdowns against the likes of Army and Navy doesn't mean that you are a top five pick in the NFL. Quinn will slip to number six and the Redskins. After all, few feel Jason Campbell is the quarterback of the future in Washington.

7. Minnesota Vikings — LaRon Landry, S,

See NFL DRAFT page 9

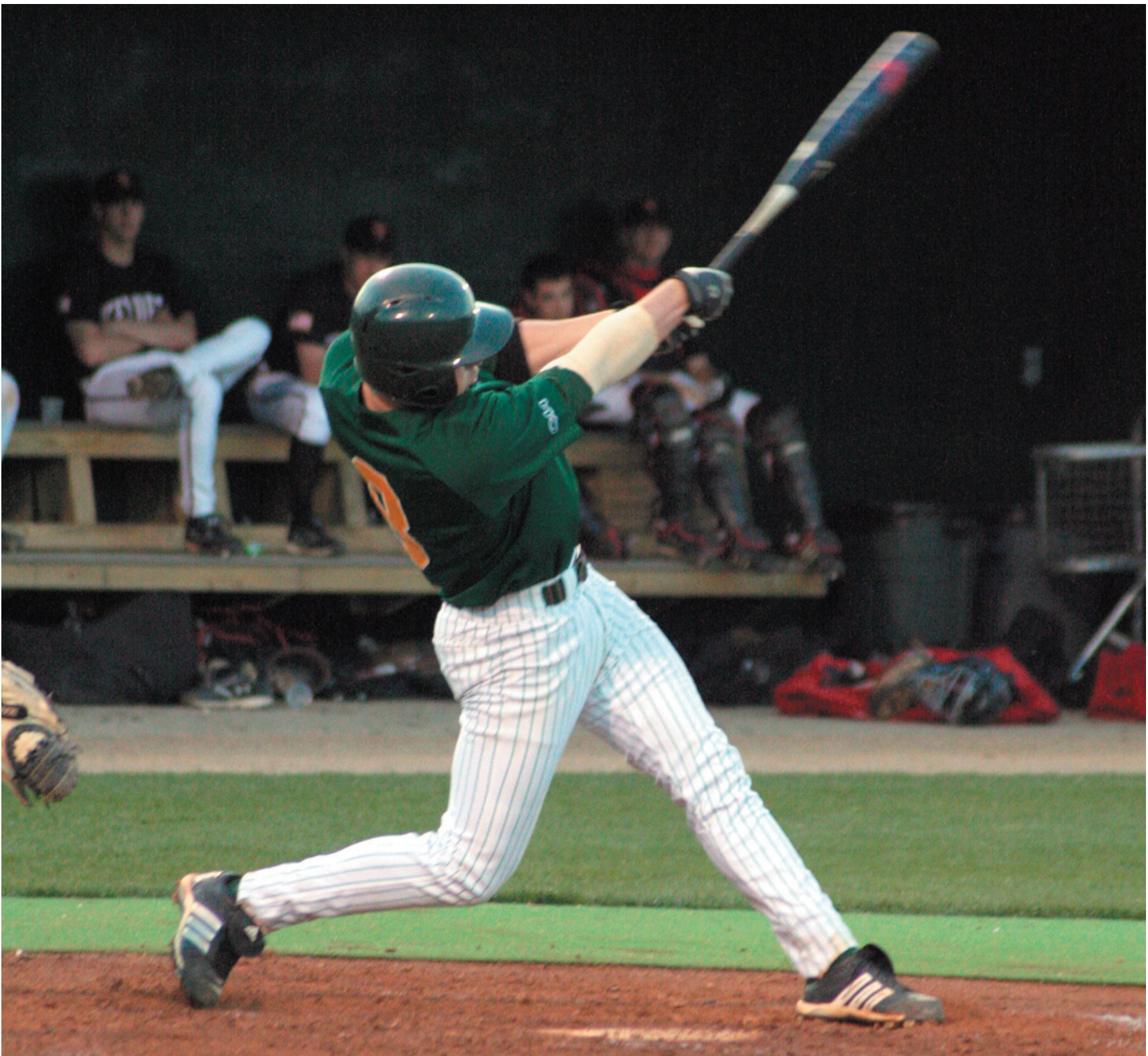
SWIMMING

Radloff named mid-major all-American

BY MILES HILDER  
FLAT HAT ASSOC. SPORTS EDITOR

Accolades for freshman Katie Radloff's record-setting season continue to roll in. After becoming the first swimmer from the College to qualify for the NCAA Championships in over 20 years, Radloff was named Colonial Athletic Association Swimmer of the Year last week. Tuesday, Radloff was selected to the Collegesswimming.com mid-major all-American team.

Radloff swam undefeated in 24 freestyle dual-meet races en route to posting 27 victories in dual-meet races. At the CAA championships, Radloff swam to victory in the 50, 100 and 200-meter freestyles. She competed at the NCAA championships in those three events, with her best finish, 32nd, coming in the 100 free. At the U.S. Open in December, Radloff finished 18th in the 100 free, barely missing a chance to swim in the 2008 Olympic Trials.



JOSH ILLINGTON • THE FLAT HAT

Tribe baseball hosts the University of North Carolina-Wilmington this weekend for a three-game series at Plumeri Park. The first game is tonight at 7 p.m.

BASEBALL: TRIBE 13, RICHMOND 4

College squashes Spiders, 13-4

Tribe sweeps the season series to go to 24-19 overall for the year; Winslow earns second win of season

BY MADDY WOLFERT  
THE FLAT HAT

The College continued dominating over the University of Richmond Tuesday, combining 12 hits with strong pitching to beat the Spiders 13-4. The win improved the Tribe's overall record to 24-19 and helped to break the team out of a three-game skid suffered at the hands of Virginia Commonwealth University.

"Richmond is at the top of their conference, and they are always a solid team," junior center fielder Paul Juliano said. "We came into the game with the right mindset and determination."

Freshman starting pitcher Cody Winslow earned his second victory of the season and improved his record to 2-0 as he pitched five innings, allowing only one earned run on six hits. Coming out of the bullpen, junior relief pitcher Jimmy Drury pitched three solid innings and fellow junior reliever Sean Grieve pitched a perfect ninth, striking out all three batters he faced to

close the game.

The Tribe got on the scoreboard early, as sophomore right fielder Robbie Nickle homered to right center in the second inning and the College scored another three runs in the third. Junior catcher Tim Park and sophomore first baseman Mike Sheridan started the third-inning rally with back-to-back singles and senior third baseman Greg Sexton was hit by a pitch, loading the bases. Junior designated hitter Greg Maliniak registered a single that plated both Park and Sheridan, and sophomore left fielder Jeff Jones, who went 0-4 on the day, grounded out and scored Sexton.

"Although it might not have shown in the stat sheet, Jeff Jones provided the necessary juice we needed to get past a great Richmond ball club," Maliniak said.

The Tribe struck again in the fifth. Sheridan doubled down the right field line and Maliniak drew a walk. On the final pitch of Maliniak's at-bat, Sheridan attempted to steal third and scored on a throwing error from the Richmond catcher. During the play, Maliniak advanced to second.

Jones drew a walk, and two batters later Nickle was hit by a pitch to load the bases. Sophomore James Williamson, pinch-hitting for sophomore shortstop Lanny Stanfield, registered a single to right field to clear the bases and give the Tribe an 8-1 lead.

The College scored again in the eighth as a home run from Maliniak scored Park and Sexton. The Tribe pushed across two more in the top of the ninth with a double from senior second baseman Brent McWhorter scoring Juliano and a sacrifice fly from Park plating Nickle.

"The win was a total team effort, and that's exactly what we need every day down the stretch. We want to use this win to build momentum heading into the [University of North Carolina-Wilmington] series this weekend," Juliano said.

The Tribe will face UNC-Wilmington at Plumeri Park this weekend. An event will be held Saturday to "Strike Out ALS," commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. For every student who attends, \$14 will be donated to the K ALS Foundation.

LACROSSE: ODU 15, TRIBE 10

ODU loss marks end of Tribe's year

College finishes season with 3-13 overall record and 1-6 record in the CAA

BY JESSICA HECHT  
THE FLAT HAT

The Tribe fell to Old Dominion University 15-10 Wednesday, finishing the season with an overall record of 3-13, and 1-6 in the CAA. Senior midfielder Emily Vitrano led the Tribe with a hat trick and an assist, while senior attacker Jamie Fitzgerald added two goals. Freshman goalkeeper Sara Beckstead recorded 14 saves.

The first period went back and forth as the lead changed hands several times. The Lady Monarchs initiated the scoring, taking a 2-0 lead two minutes into the game. The College responded immediately as Fitzgerald found the back of the net off a pass from Vitrano. The rapid pace continued as the score became knotted at five apiece with 17 minutes remaining in the first half. The College gained their first lead of the match shortly thereafter, as junior midfielder Jamie Sellers drove in and scored to put the Tribe ahead 6-5.

Over the ensuing 16 minutes, ODU outscored the College 4-0 to take a 9-6 lead, the biggest advantage either team had seen thus far. With 22 seconds left in the half, senior midfielder Kristen Wong notched a goal off a pass from freshman midfielder Katie Delaney. The Tribe headed into the locker room trailing the Lady Monarchs 9-7.

"Both teams had a great showing offensively in the first half," said Fitzgerald. "ODU went on a roll in the second half though, and we just couldn't keep our momentum going."



MEGAN DOYLE • THE FLAT HAT

Kara Parker (above) is one of seven seniors on the Tribe who saw their collegiate careers end Wednesday night.

See LACROSSE page 9